GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2247
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2016
Financial Assistance for Inter-Caste Marriages
Gopalakrishnan Shri R.

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has increased the amount of financial assistance for inter-caste marriages and for the marriage of economically backward girls in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA)

(a) & (b): Under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for implementation of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, due Central assistance is admissible to State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations for effective implementation of these Acts. One of the elements of Central assistance under the Scheme, relates to incentive for inter- caste marriages, where one of the spouses is a member of a Scheduled Caste and the quantum of incentive amount is decided and provided by the concerned State Government/Union Territory Administration, which is presently between Rs. 10,000/- to Rs. 5,00,000/-. There is, however, no provision under the said Scheme to provide financial assistance for the marriage of economically backward girls.

Besides, such couples whose annual income is up to Rs. 5.00 lakh can also directly seek an incentive of Rs. 2.5. lakh under the Scheme namely 'Dr. Ambedkar Scheme for Social Integration through Inter-Caste Marriage' started during 2014-15 by Dr. Ambedkar Foundation set up under the aegis of this Ministry.